



#23

PATENT
Docket No.: 10235/4

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT : Yoshihiro SATO et al.
SERIAL NO. : 09/242,561
FILING DATE : February 19, 1999
FOR : METHOD FOR RETAINING MINUTE DROPLET, REACTING
AND REACTION VESSEL
GROUP ART UNIT : 1655
EXAMINER : B. Forman
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR
PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

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AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL

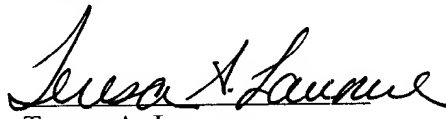
Transmitted herewith is an amendment for this application.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (202) 220-4258 to discuss any information concerning this application.

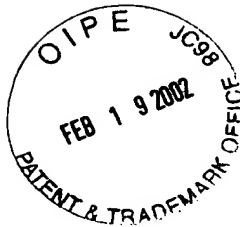
The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 or § 1.117 or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2/19/02


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Docket No. 10235/4

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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FEB 20 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Inventors: Yoshihiro SATO

Serial No.: 09/242,561

Filing Date: February 19, 1999

For: Method for Retaining Minute
Droplet, Reaction and Reaction Vessel

Group: 1655

Examiner: Forman, B.

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.121

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed November 19, 2001. Accordingly, this response is due on or before February 19, 2002. It is respectfully requested that the following amendments be entered to place this application in condition for allowance.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

34. (Amended) A process for conducting a PCR reaction in a minute droplet of an aqueous solution protected from evaporation comprising the steps of:
- providing a planar substrate;
 - providing an oily liquid layer;
 - providing an aqueous solution immiscible with said oily liquid layer;

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